

REMARKS

1. Claims 1-25 were pending. Claims 11, 14, and 25 have been amended. Claims 26-30 have been added. Claims 1-30 are now pending. The Office Action indicated the allowance of Claims 1-10, 12-13, and 15-24. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

2. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 11, 14, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶

2. These claims have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which the Applicants regard as their invention. Support for these amendments is found in the specification at page 8, lines 6-10. Since this amendment has support in the specification, no further search is necessitated by this amendment.

3. Paragraph No. 4 at pages 2-3 of the Office Action, an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is given. New Claims 26-30 have been drafted accordingly and are therefore allowable.

4. In sum, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims now pending are allowable and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of Claims 1-30 at an early date is solicited. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application which could be clarified by a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same

with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 24 day of February, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley K. Desandro", written over the printed name.

BRADLEY K. DESANDRO
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,521

WORKMAN, NYDEGGER & SEELEY
1000 Eagle Gate Tower
60 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Telephone: (801) 533-9800
Facsimile: (801) 328-1707

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